



First Presbyterian Church

OF LAKE FOREST

May 9, 2021

Eastertide
Mother's Day

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Child, if it happens that you thrive and prosper, think you were brought up by your mother's knee: always remember in your heart those three things, where you have come, what you are, and what shall come of you.
—English, 14th century
Anonymous

PRELUDE

Toccata on 'The Strife is O'er'

Palestrina

WORLD PREMIERE

arr. Barry J. Wenger, 2021

THE WELCOME

***CALL TO WORSHIP FOR MOTHER'S DAY**

Corrine Reichert
Susan, Dan, Spencer, and Lauren Milanak

Leader: Today, we are giving thanks to God for the gift of mothers and the mother-like nature that many people show to others in their lives.

Isaiah wrote that God is a mother to us, comforting and carrying us in her arms.

People: Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

Leader: Isaiah also wrote that God would never forget us. God knows each of us, like a mother knows her own children.

People: Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

*Please stand if you are able.

Leader: David wrote that in God's presence, he was quiet and at peace, trusting his mother God like a child safe in loving arms.

People: Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

Leader: Jesus spoke of himself as a mother, longing to wrap his arms around us, like a mother hen gathers her chicks under her wings.

People: Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care,

Leader: Paul writes about his missionary ministry and likens his work to that of a nurse who looks after those in her care.

People: Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care and the honor to worship you this morning.

All: Let us worship God!

***HYMN OF PRAISE, No. 14**

For the Beauty of the Earth

Tune: DIX

(Please refrain from singing aloud in the sanctuary.)

*For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:*

Refrain: Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

*For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and start of light:*

Refrain

*For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight:*

Refrain

*For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild:*

Refrain

*For thyself, best gift divine to the world so freely given;
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:*

Refrain

*Please stand if you are able.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Walter Rauschenbusch
(1861-1918)

“We pray for those who come after us, for all the young lives that are marching up from the gates of birth, pure and eager, with the morning sunshine on their faces. We remember with a pang that these will be living in the world we are making for them. We are making the burden heavy. We are poisoning the air of our land by our lies, and they will breathe it.

Lord, help us to break the ancient force of evil by a steadfast will to endow our children with finer ideals and nobler thoughts. Grant us to leave the earth fairer than we found it; to build upon it cities of hope in which the cries of needless suffering shall cease.”

We pray these things in the name of your Son, who came to reconcile us to you and to each other. Amen.

SUNG INVOCATION, No. 288

Spirit of the Living God

Tune: LIVING GOD

(Please refrain from singing aloud in the sanctuary.)

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Revelation 21

Leader: And I saw the holy city coming down out of heaven like a bride adorned for her husband.

People: And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “See, I am making all things new.”

Leader: In the name of Jesus, our sins are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God!

*Please stand if you are able.

***SUNG RESPONSE, No. 582 Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me** TUNE: GLORY TO GOD

(Please refrain from singing aloud in the sanctuary.)

*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lauren Milanak

Lord, give us wisdom before we speak, understanding while we listen, sensitivity toward others, and the perspective of your kingdom in which to see the things of the world. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING

John 15:9-17

“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.”

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to you, O Christ.

*Please stand if you are able.

SERMON

“No Greater Love”

Rev. Clinton G. Roberts

ANTHEM

The Lord Is My Shepherd

Howard Goodall, 1994

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERING

Song of My Heart

Brenda E. Austin, 2020

***DOXOLOGY**

TUNE: OLD HUNDRETH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above, ye heavenly host;

praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

***THE LORD’S PRAYER**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

***HYMN OF SENDING, No. 611**

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

TUNE: HYMN TO JOY

(Please refrain from singing aloud in the sanctuary.)

Joyful, Joyful, we adore thee, God of Glory, Lord of Love!

Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.

Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.

Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

*Please stand if you are able.

*All thy works with joy surround thee; earth and heaven reflect thy rays;
stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.*

*Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountains, call us to rejoice in thee.*

Mortals, join the happy chorus which the morning stars began.

Love divine is reigning o'er us, joining all in heaven's plan.

Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife.

Joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Piece for Organ

Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel
(1805-1847)

Chancel Flowers

*In honor of my parents, Jack and Corrine Reichert.
Happy Mother's Day to my mom and remembering my
dad on the anniversary of his passing. –Susan Milanak*

*Please stand if you are able.

NOTES:

To give online or fulfill your pledge: [FirstChurchLF.org/give](https://www.FirstChurchLF.org/give)

Pastor Clint's day off is on Monday. Pastor Kristie's day off is on Friday.

Worship Participants

Rev. Clinton Roberts, Senior Pastor

Rev. Kristie Finley, Associate Pastor

Jim Cochrane, Director of Youth Ministries

Dr. Tom Tropp, Director of Music and Arts

Dr. Barry Wenger, Director of Bell Choirs and Organist

Susan Noble, Director of Children's Music

Lakeminster Ringers

AV Support: Will & Peter Elliott

Corrine Reichert, Liturgist

Susan, Dan, Spencer, and Lauren Milanak; Liturgist



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